

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device for clamping a flexible packing (2,3) of a cylinder (1) of a printing press, which said cylinder has an axial channel (6) on a jacket surface, said clamping device comprising:

a) a clamping body (10; 20; 25), which forms a clamping gap in said clamping channel (6) with a first opposite surface (4) for at least one end of said packing (2,3), which said end protrudes through said opening (7) of said channel (6);

b) two said channel walls, which face said first opposite surface (4), and one of which forms a second opposite surface (5) and the other forms a third opposite surface (9), on which said clamping body (10; 20; 25) is supported, touching it;

c) wherein at least one said clamping body (10; 20; 25) and said opposite surfaces (4, 5, 9) form a spring (10; 20; 14; 15), and the force of elasticity of said spring (10; 20; 14; 15) tensions said clamping body (10; 20; 25) and said first opposite surface (4) toward each other in order to clamp the at least one end of said packing (2,3) with said packing (2,3) pulled in.

2. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said opposite surfaces (4, 5, 9) are formed on one or both of said cylinder (1) or on a filler (8) immovably bound with said cylinder (1).

3. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~

~~above claims claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ said opposite surfaces (4, 5, 9) form support points for said clamping body (10, 20, 25), which are distributed around the circumference of said clamping body (10, 20, 25), wherein two adjacent support points each have an angular distance of less than 180°.

4. (Currently Amended) A clamping Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ the at least one end of said packing (2, 3) is introduced into the clamping gap against the force of elasticity of said spring (10, 20, 14, 15).

5. (Currently Amended) A clamping Clamping device in accordance with at least ~~one of the above claims claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ said spring (10, 20, 14, 15) can be caused to perform an inward spring deflection by the thickness of the at least one end of said packing (2, 3).

6. (Currently Amended) A clamping Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ said clamping body (10, 20) forms said spring.

7. (Currently Amended) A clamping Clamping device in accordance with ~~the above claim 6, characterized in that wherein~~ said clamping body (10) is elastic in its material.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above two claims~~ claim 7, characterized in that wherein said clamping body (10) is a composite body with a core (10i) made of a core material and with a coating (10a) made of an elastically nonrigid coating material, which is connected to said core (10i) and has a lower specific gravity than the core material and which can be caused to perform an inward spring deflection by the thickness of the at least one end of said packing (2, 3).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~the above~~ claim 8, characterized in that wherein said coating (10a) envelopes said core (10i).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above two claims~~ claim 8, characterized in that wherein the coating material has a Shore hardness of 70 Shore \pm 10 Shore.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above five claims~~ claim 6, characterized in that wherein said clamping body (20) is elastic due to its shape.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~the above~~ claim 11, characterized in that wherein said clamping body (20) forms a elastic arc (21) and forms said clamping gap with said arc (21), and that said arc (21) is open.

13. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ above claims claim 12, characterized in that wherein said arc (21) extends over at least two of said opposite surfaces (4, 5, 9) and is elastically tensioned to at least two of said opposite surfaces (4, 5, 9).

14. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ above two claims claim 12, characterized in that wherein said arc (21) forms said support feet (22) at its two ends, with which it is supported in said channel (6) and between which it is elastically tensioned.

15. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ above claims claim 1, characterized in that wherein an insert (14, 15), which is inserted into a channel wall limiting said channel (6), or an elastically nonrigid coating, which is arranged on said channel wall, forms said spring.

16. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~the above~~ claim 15, characterized in that wherein said insert (14, 15) is elastic in its material.

17. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~the above~~ claim 16, characterized in that wherein said insert (14, 15) has a Shore hardness of 70 Shore \pm 10 Shore.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~above two claims~~ claim 16, characterized in that wherein said insert (14, 15) or said coating
is provided with a wear-resistant surface, preferably coated with a harder material forming the
wear-resistant surface, on a side facing said clamping body (25).

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~above claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein at least two of said opposite surfaces (4,
5, 9) are formed by an insert (14, 15) or coating that is elastic in its material ~~each in accordance~~
~~with one of the above three claims~~.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~above claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein a recess, which is formed on the jacket
surface of said cylinder (1), and at least one said filler (8) inserted into said recess form said
channel (6) and said limiting edges (1v, 8n) of said opening (7) of said channel (6), and said
filler (8) is provided with a insert (15) or a coating that is elastic in its material ~~in accordance~~
~~with one of the above five claims~~.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~above claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein said opening (7) of said channel (6) is
limited by two said limiting edges (1v, 8n) in the circumferential direction of said cylinder (1);
that said channel (6) widens from said limiting edges (1v, 8n) in both circumferential

directions of said cylinder (1); and that a channel wall extending up to one of said limiting edges (1v, 1n [sic - Tr.Ed.]) forms said first opposite surface (4), and a channel wall extending up to the other of said limiting edges (1v, 8n) forms said second opposite surface (5), so that the at least one end of said packing (2, 3) can be clamped between said clamping body (10, 20, 25) and either said first opposite surface (4) or said second opposite surface (5) depending on said direction of rotation (D) of said cylinder (1).

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein said first opposite surface (4) points at an angle of at least 30° to a radial (R) extending through said channel opening (7) toward said axis of rotation (D_z) of said cylinder (1).

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein said second opposite surface (5) points at an angle of at least 30° toward a radial (R) extending through said channel opening (7) toward said axis of rotation (D_z) of said cylinder (1).

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the above claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein one (9) of said opposite surfaces (4, 5, 9) forms a guide path, along which said clamping body (25) can be moved in a rolling and/or sliding manner at right angles to said axis of rotation (D_z) of said cylinder (1).

25. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ ~~above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said clamping body (10, 20, 25) has a round surface, with which it forms the clamping gap, at least in the nonloaded state.

26. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~the above~~ ~~claim 1~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the round surface has a radius of curvature that is greater than 7 mm and preferably greater than 10 mm.

27. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ ~~above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said clamping body (10, 25) is rotatable in said channel (6) while the clamping gap is maintained.

28. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ ~~above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a plurality of said packings (2, 3) are tensioned onto said cylinder (1), arranged axially next to one another, and not more than one said clamping body (10, 20, 25) per packing is provided.

29. (Currently Amended) A clamping ~~Clamping~~ device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ ~~above claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein only one said clamping body (10, 20, 25) is arranged in said channel (6).

30. (Currently Amended) ~~A clamping~~ Clamping device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~claims 1 through 26~~ claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ a plurality of said separate clamping
bodies ~~(10; 20; 25)~~ are arranged in said channel.